

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) A cooking double boiler comprising:

an outer pan comprising an upper aperture and a bottom portion for holding water;

an upper lid for covering said upper aperture; and

an inner pan comprising a flange that is located in the interior of the outer pan, wherein

the outer pan, the inner pan and the upper lid are made of ceramic material,

the outer pan comprises a peripheral edge portion that supports the flange of the inner pan;

the double boiler further comprising vapor spouts for directing water vapor generated in the outer pan to an upper space of the inner pan, said vapor spouts being operable between open and closed positions, and located between the peripheral edge portion and the flange of the inner pan.

3. (Currently Amended) The cooking double boiler as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the inner pan is supported by the peripheral edge portion of the outer pan at a height at which a bottom surface of the inner pan does not come into contact with water when water is poured into the outer pan.

4. (Currently Amended) The cooking double boiler as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the peripheral edge position comprises a plurality of concave portions are for providing a backflow path of condensed water.

5. (Previously Presented) The cooking double boiler as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said vapor spouts each comprise a surface of the flange of the inner pan for movement between an open position and a closed position relative to said surface of an inner side of said peripheral edge portion.

6. (Previously Presented) The cooking double boiler as claimed in Claim 2, further comprising an attachment located

Serial No. 10/716,935

on said flange for opening and closing the vapor spouts.

7. (Currently Amended) The cooking double boiler as claimed in Claim 12, wherein said bottom portion of the outer pan has a stepped portion indicative of an amount of poured water.

8. (Currently Amended) The cooking double boiler as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the inner pan comprises a plurality of soymilk accumulating portions.